Fran,

Here are some preliminary priorities and principles around phase 2 SEPA rulemaking. We have a poll out to city planning directors to help us prioritize within these and potentially remove a few or add new ones. We'll have the results of that ready to share by the 20th.

Thanks!

Carl

Principles for Phase II SEPA rulemaking

- No net loss of environmental protection
- More efficient, cheaper to implement
- More clear regulations, easier to understand
- As good or better public participation in local decision-making (permitting process)
 - Earlier notice and involvement
 - Less duplication
- Better integration with other statutes
- SEPA process adds value not just paperwork and not duplicate regulation and other ordinances
- Any change is scalable (to reflect diversity of size, expertise and resources between Cities)
- Any change should support continued efforts to ensure comments occur EARLY in the process and end of process engagement options are limited
- Plain talk the language
- Process point: want any subgroups to be inclusive and make sure that everyone has an option

Possible topics for consideration by the advisory committee next year include:

- Non-project actions for possible categorical exemption
 - Boundary line adjustments
 - Fence Heights
 - Side-yard setbacks,
- Project categorical exemptions (including default levels)
 - Size of underground utility pipe size
 - Size of underground storage tanks
 - Wireless facilities

- SEPA currently silent on above-ground tanks
- Some review of the transportation exemptions that add automobile lanes
- Commuter facilities and amenities (not just transit but also regular park and ride)
- Mixed-use/TOD
- Propose two buckets 1) technical, just fix-its, 2) high priority other items
- Restoration projects
- Notice
- SEPA/GMA/SMA integration
- Exceptions to the exemptions
- Utilities and transportation
- Environmental checklist
- Structural issues with the WAC